

# DOLL TALK

FOR . . . .  
COLLECTORS

Volume 9, Number 10

Jan. - Feb., 1953

## EVERYONE BUT HUKS

Don't you love enthusiasm as a trait? We at Kimport have the blessed privilege of dealing with enthusiasts, with folk who have a hobby and love it! You may be a linguist and hence know about this wonderful word but only recently its root unfolded into my ken. "Enthuse" is the flowering of Greek derivative "en theos" which means literally, an inward God. How beautiful to belong to the cult of enthusiasts!

For this particular front page, our enthusiasm will glow for a cache of Philippine dolls that we have sort o' hoarded, because who would know if their kind will ever again be available? Many of you have had loved ones either stationed in these Islands, or friends who passed that way, and really searched for dolls. They found nothing there in collection class, like our fascinating tribal dolls. These hand-made cloth dolls date in the 1930's and early forties. They are expertly fashioned and featured to look like the people whom they represent as well as being faithfully dressed. One large shipment of finished dolls was interned during the war along with

charming Mrs. Ida McCrory, who had been responsible for inspiring their high standard of design.

There are nine dolls in the series, man and women each of Negrito, Igorot, Moro, Tagalog and the Mestiza lady as here pictured.

All are 10½ in size; dolls are made of fine brown cloth with well painted Malayan features; fingers and toes are hand-stitched and perfectly shaped; garments are entirely authentic, both as to styling and weaves of material.

The Mestiza is a lady who is most socially acceptable in cosmopolitan Manila. Her black hair is worn in a chignon, her long trailed gown elaborately trimmed and there is usually a fichu and sleeves of pineapple cloth. No. 454, \$8.50.

Pedigree pages are unusually interesting on any of the Philippine types; the Moro story tells of these clever, commercial minded, Mohammedan folk who built their villages on piling, near the sea. Turbaned man is No. 455; Moro woman in full trousers and tight jacket, No. 455A, \$6.00 each.

Igorots do have some repulsive customs along with their traditionally fine physiques and artistic





Moros

ability. In doll form, though, they're as neat and desirable as can be in their scant, hand-woven costumes. Man, No. 456, wears a loin cloth and the tiniest dab of braided hat; woman, 456A, a modest bolero and skirt; \$6.00 each.

Negritos are darker complexioned with fuzzy instead of straight black hair like the others, and their dress is even "scanter!" Man, with poisoned arrow, is No. 457, and his wife, 457A; \$6.00 each.

"The worry over the water shortage was broken for an hour when Doll Talk came. What do people do in this troubled world without a hobby?"

—Giulia Cuthbert, W. Virginia.



Igorots

The Tagalogs are quite beautifully clad, especially pretty "Cara" who wears a big, basket-like hat, a transparent cloth blouse of pina or some such exotic material, sometimes a Christian medal and always on her feet, cute clogs of wood and velvet. She is No. 458A at \$7.50. His hat is just a plain chip straw; No. 458, \$6.00.

There is no question but what a complete group of the Islanders in their varied native dress, on basically different dolls, too, would become a valuable asset, as well as being of much interest currently.

"Please send my Ceylon Chief and Lady from the hold box. I had lunch at Kandy in 1935 when I went around the world, so am anxious to see the dolls."

—Mary Gerst, Hawaii.





Tagalogs

## BROWNIE SIZE LECTURES

Here's an educational idea for you troop mothers, to stimulate interest and research in your young girls: Mrs. F. S. Glendening wrote that she invited a local Brownie group to visit her home, to inspect the imports and character dolls of her collection. Their enterprising leader had given each Brownie the name of one of the historical dolls, and as each of these dolls was brought forth, the little lass made a brief talk on what she had discovered about this particular person. Mrs. Glendening comments that the talks were "most instructive, in a sugar-coated way."

## STEP THIS WAY, PLEASE

Pre-Christmas rushing is apt to include assembling those play dolls that have been loved to pieces and bundling them off to a Doll Hospital. Mrs. Dale Unger wrote in such a graphic account of her loving venture along that line that we'll pass it along for a laugh to be shared.

"Mollie's big Baby Co's doll, Tommy, whom she calls her little brother, needed new arms. There is a doll hospital at Elder's department store in Dayton, so one afternoon, I took "him" over. That wasn't as simple as it sounds, because he was too big to put in a shopping bag without either his head or his feet sticking out—and I couldn't tie him up in a package, because the slightest pressure causes him to "cry." So all I could do was—you're right—just tuck him under my arm like a real child and walk right through the heart of the city, through the big store, up the escalator to the fifth floor, just as though I always carried a doll with me.

"Mollie had dressed him in his best suit, so that he looked more like a baby than ever. All the way along, I could hear people say, "Why, that's a doll!" Dale was with me, but he walked about five steps ahead, pretending that he didn't even know me and that it was pure coincidence that he was even on the same street of the same town on the same day!

Tommy was in a nice box when we went after him, so, except for the inconvenience of carrying a box the size of a young piano, we had no trouble at all in getting him back home."

## WITH WORDS — AND MUSIC

To any doll enthusiast living in the vicinity of Washington, D. C., it might well be superfluous to explain who is Mrs. M. E. Ferrell. On Kimport records she is up to the "200 dolls" class and there have been many heartening letters, as well as the purchases, sharing the news of how many times and ways different groups from her large collection has been privileged to help, for others. In a recent letter was a press clipping concerning a D. A. R. silver tea at her own home where colonial and patriotic dolls were highlighted.

There was a snapshot, too, of a table full of doll choir singers with this explanation: "My church has ten choirs, from tots to adults, each with a different color and style robe. Thinking what a wonderful, colorful group of dolls it would make, I planned to dress one doll like each choir. Then the two choir directors each wanted a set, and a friend who dresses dolls as a hobby loved them also, so she volunteered to help and the result was forty dolls! I wish the picture was in color as it is the rich, beautiful hues which make this group so interesting."

It was Luta Ferrell's faith in and enthusiasm for missionary opportunities that started her into the doll hobby. Her name appears under "Status of Women" on the official letterhead of the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the Methodist Church, Baltimore Conference. Mrs. Ferrell has filled as many as five appointments a week, exhibiting her various foreign groups of dolls. In her last let-

ter she wails: "I'm afraid I have depleted the entire possibility of African dolls from Kimport!"

## DO YOU KNOW - - - -

That fierce warriors of the African Masai tribe carve famous wooden dolls?

## GRAND DIVISIONS

The Wenham Museum at Wenham, Massachusetts, suggested the following general classifications for studying dolls and figurines. Sub-divisions and tangent subjects, amplifications and overlapping data could be endless!

I. CULT FIGURES: 1, Fetish; 2, Ancestor Image; 3, Grave Image; 4, Talisman; 5, Tomb Image; 6, Idol; 7, Votive Image.

II. DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAY-DOLL OR TOY: A. Material: 1, Wood; 2, Fabric; 3, Papier-mache; 4, China; 5, Wax; 6, Bisque; 7, Celluloid; 8, Rubber; 9, Composition; 10, Metal; 11, Paper. B. The Body—From Adult to Infant: 1, Form; 2, Material; 3, Mechanism.

III. THE COSTUME DOLL: 1, Regional; 2, Occupational.

IV. THE CHARACTER-COSTUME DOLL: 1, Regional; 2, Occupational; 3, Fictional; 4, Commemorative; 5, Portrait; 6, Cartoon; 7, Advertising; 8, Benefit.

V. DECORATIVE—Utilitarian.

VI. WHIMSIES." Made of various materials (nuts, shells, leaves, spools, etc., over 200 listed).

VII. PUPPETS AND MARIONETTES: 1, Chinese theatre; 2, Japanese Wayang; 3, Modern Puppet.





Q. Can you tell me anything about a tin head doll that has a kid body and bisque hands?

A. This is probably a Minerva or Juno, of German manufacture, and dating about fifty years ago. The Minervas were of the tin, while the Junos looked to be brass.

Q. Don't you ever get complaints—bawled out for something or other? Seems to me those Correspondence Clippings pass along a lot of compliments.

A. Sorry, if we seem to play all sweet music on our own horn tooting, but I checked back and the C. C. compliments were nearly all on dolls. Complaints? Oh, a few. One customer discontinued her Doll Talk subscription because it was too annoying to have it coming a month late. Another returned a Geisha Girl saying, "It certainly is a little beauty, but I think I may get one cheaper directly from Japan." Then there was our prize long distance refund, because an apple head Indian had developed interior habitation of some sort after s-e-v-e-n years in her home, yes, seven years from Kimport. You see, even in our delightful business we get some fair, and some fairly funny complaints.

Q. Do you have or know where I can buy some paint to use on an old papier-mache doll arms and legs?

A. We do no "hospital" repairs, but if such a job were needed here at Kimport, we would match the old type of finish. Usually semi-gloss enamel for a base, tinted with artist's tube color and used, not too thick, can achieve a perfect effect.

Q. I wonder do you have any more quilt patterns? I used to get them from McKim Studios.

A. No, but quilts were a first love in our small career of design and research. Our pattern services were widely syndicated, and there were two editions of Ruby Short McKim's bound volume called "One Hundred and One Patchwork Patterns," but, sorry, Dolls have completely taken over now for the past eighteen years.

Q.—You described Helen Young's Gay 90's man as having a patent leather mustache. Wouldn't that be impractical? I'd much prefer something all china.

A.—Looks like R.S.M. had run amuck again with that power of description! Pardon, ma'am, of course the gent doll's hair and boots and big moustache are all black and shiny as patent leather but honest, truly china—so, a metaphor, no doubt.

Q. I bought a beautiful 23" china head doll with deep shoulders and 6 holes for sewing it onto her body. One different thing about her is that her lovely china arms are both "rights" and her flat soled blue shoes both "lefts." Would this make her less valuable?

A. I would say YES, as definitely as any swain, should such defects show up in his "blind date."

## YEP, WE'RE SLICKERS!

Mrs. Carl Aschman sent in a rush order for two Hawaiian boys and here's the why. She had in their own collection one of those alluring 7½-inch girl dolls whom we call "Paulani" on her pedigree page; the Aschmans, with true literary flair, called theirs "Bloody Mary," and that ain't Tudor!

Well, this rush order came in for a pair of small Dutch and a couple of Hawaiians. We sent Papale Joe with Paulani and got back this reply:

"Box just arrived and I am delighted. I got these dolls to start two more little girls on collecting, but you pulled a fast one. I took one look at Joe whom I didn't know existed, and now, of course, I have to have a 'Joe' to go with our own 'Bloody Mary.' I also decided I couldn't separate the pair you sent, so my little niece will get an extra bonus in her gift.

Can't we  
euchre  
you into  
trading  
\$3.50 for  
either  
the  
bright  
eyed  
little  
lady  
in her  
holoku,  
No. 459A



or irresistible barefoot Joe, No. 459. The pair with leis, \$7.00.

## KEWPIE COURTIER

Miss Carolyn John, who carves and completes the most fascinating of character dolls, is always extremely generous in her appreciation of the efforts of other doll makers. I think we have quoted her before, re-printing praises concerning the handwork and original ideas of others. This time it's a C. J. quote that wafts an artist's conception of what to do with our reproduction "Kewpies."

"You can't think what pleasure I had opening the wonderful box of treasures! It had been a long time since I had added to my collection (mostly because of saving for another trip to England)—it gave me a great lift.

"I have taken the dear little Kewpie to my heart and it is now wearing a pale pink cotton ruffle around its tummy with tiny blue and deep pink dots, and wee ruffles over the shoulders—big bow in back."

Wish there was a group of Miss John's coveted wooden dolls to offer, but here is our stock right now: A 10½ inch Heidi, \$17.50, No. 48HI, and her saintly old Alm Uncle with his great Alpine horn. He is about 15 inches tall, \$30.00, No. 48U. One wondrous Hans Brinker in 15 inch size is \$25.00; No. 48B. Kate Green-away boy in canary-yellow, is bearing a big, wrapped gift - 10 inches tall, reduced from \$15.00 to \$12.50. Slightly smaller Clown Child, No. 199R, whimsical; reduced from \$15.00 to \$11.95. Cunning, brown toned wood elfin, 11 inches tall, in leather with green felt, is No. 199C at \$13.50. That's all!



## A U. N. STORY

In the August '52 issue of the magazine "Main Line," there is featured, even on the cover, the story of Flora Feralio's dolls. We can't quote the entire two page article, even though we'd especially like to, as Mrs. Feralio included a generous tribute to Kimport, which was passed along by feature writer Helen Fisher. Her first paragraph is a picture:

"Walking into the home of Mrs. Alex J. Feralio on Wildwood Drive, Paoli, is like attending a meeting of the United Nations. Here, colorfully dressed little dolls from nearly all countries of the world are grouped together on tables, in bookcases and atop the mantle. A Chinese priest stands beside Juan, a peasant from old Mexico while Clancy and Molly O'Rourke of the sidewalks of New York smile sweetly across the room at the fighting McCoys of the Kentucky hills, and "Bessie, the Home Town Reporter" from Independence, Missouri, watches the groups of people from other lands with fascinated eyes."

"There were descriptions and stories of ever so many individual dolls, but perhaps most helpful to pass along is this inspirational bit.

"Mrs. Feralio finds time in addition to working for Uncle Sam at the Paoli postoffice, to lend her dolls for exhibits at various charitable events, hoping that her collection of international figures will create a better understanding between the peoples of the world.

"She has taken as many as sixty dolls to New York, Philadelphia, and other cities for exhibitions to

aid European welfare drives, in an effort to lend a hand to wipe out prejudice among nations. . . . During the war, when speaking to school children, she emphasized: 'We must not hate,' as she displayed the dolls from over-run countries and their aggressors. . . . When newspapers asked for relief for Europe and Asia, she used the title: 'Have you ever been hungry?' Her talks also have taken the form of a travelogue, with the dolls touring the United States."

## DONE UP BROWN

The clearest pictures and best selection of dolls were coupled with most concise copy for a great doll page shown in the Youngstown Vindicator Rotogravure of Sunday, Sept. 14, 1952. Family groups of Lencis, Kruse, and Schoenhut children, a mother and daughter French Fashion pair, Negro bisque youngsters made delightful pictures all strong in "human" interest appeal. Top center was a musical Jumeau with a bird cage; when playing, the bird flutters and the doll coaxes him with a bunch of cherries. If one were contemplating grand larceny, what tempting bait this bird 'n' doll would be!

Cozily surrounded by these charming group photographs, the center one was of handsome Ruth Whittington—in person—sitting before a whole Virginia sofa full of bisque infants, some about life size ones.

Yes, Miss Whittington, whose dolls were being so honored, is a teacher who collects carefully, participates in Doll Club activities and gets tremendous satisfaction from this grandest hobby of 'em all.



I think it was Miss Baumer of Marshall Fields antique Treasure Corner who explained, "This is not valuable because of its antiquity, but it has become old because it was beautiful and valuable enough to be treasured through the years." Some collectors prefer items in original condition only, others do not object to well done repairs or restoration, and all may covet certain types to fill in special, well-rounded groups. So, here's an assortment.

Blonde, French bisque girl has a smooth textured, pink tint head with short, tumbled curls, closely modeled in the bisque. Head is perfect, circa 1885; old cloth body, bisque hands; cotton clothing is all right but not original. No. A825, 11 inches tall, \$24.50.

Bisque boy doll with paper-weight blown eyes and original lamb's wool wig is 12½ inches tall. Jointed body. His own old brown velvet suit is trimmed with gold metallic and blue satin in a fancy but military styling with a sword. He is unusually precious and foreign looking, dating around the early 1880's, we would judge. No. A829, \$45.00.

"Gertrude" is still another type of bisque, a 20-inch kid bodied lass with beautiful dark brown eyes, parted lips and considerably becombed, flaxen hued wig. Head and hands are perfect; clothing all original and quaintly becoming. There is a crocheted tam, bright blue silk dress is lined,

flounced "cat-stitched," but beginning to cut—it is probably sixty years old, as this doll dates 1892. No. AS224, \$18.00.

For the last bisque this time we offer a few heads only; they are "Fulpers." You may know that this was a U. S. venture to compete with the German product, the time, World War I, when we wanted nothing from the realm of der Kaiser. Well, the bisque is OK., mouths pretty wide open, which with two inset pearly teeth did give the young Fulpers a mouth-breathen expression. But it was the problem of attaching these teeth and inserting glass eyes which zoomed manufacturing expense into more than complete imported heads had cost. So the short lived Fulper experiment produced a limited number of complete heads which are collector items thirty-five years later. In three sizes, minus wigs; 4¾" high, \$6.00; 4¾", \$6.75; 5¼", \$8.25.

For our glazed china group we'll offer blonde, jet haired boy and lady. Blonde "Missey" from the Robertson collection was known to have belonged to a slave. Dark eyes; platinum pale hair is combed low-brow style quite similar to the later most common kind. High colored cheeks, extra chubby, 13 inches tall. Old arms and legs, boots with double row of buttons and rosettes in brown on white. Re-dressed, but in pre-bellum plaid silk in mellow tan, ivory and gray hues. No. AR665, \$28.00.

Nine inch, jet haired and ordinary looking at first glance, is china head on an old, home-made body. BUT—Kimport has never had one with which some indi-



vidual dollmaker had taken such liberties! There is a round hole almost half inch across cut through at the crown of her head and a smaller circle through at the nape of the neck. Of course, there's an old ribbon run through to a gloriously big bow atop and I'm willing to wager another blue ribbon that we will have no deluge of letters saying—"Oh, I've seen that kind often!" Adorably dressed in a wine red suit, with panniers and long flaring basque, she is No. A777, \$30.00.

"Sonny's" jolly looking old china head is sharply modeled, an unusual one all right, with ears showing below his irregularly tumbled black curls. Three and a half inch head and original arms are perfect; home-made body; black jacket, pants and shoes, white shirt and stockings. Thirteen inches tall, No. A793, \$35.00.

Two littles and a big—"Little Emily," circa 1860, 7¼ inches tall, has an extra prim look due to her tiny bud-of-a-mouth, not half as wide as one of her dark blue eyes. Wide hair style, high forehead, slender neck, deeply sloping shoulders, the 1¼-inch head is perfect. Legs and arms are of white bisque or unglazed china; prettily redressed in old dotted lawn. No. A521, \$11.00.

An' lit'ler still is another with wide, old-fashioned head and slender throat, black-eyed "Mary Belle," only 5½ inches tall. She is probably a bride, as her satin gown has a train and bustle back, all grayed with age. Pretty expression, high brow; not only the deep shouldered head but slender original arms, legs (flat soled),

and slim cloth body are in perfect condition. No. A782, \$16.00.

The "big" is a beauty, another blonde with center part but still boy style hair. Very plump and child-like, of thin translucent china with six holes in the short, beautifully rounded shoulders. Ears show completely under curls that are decidedly asymmetric. Antique arms with cupped hands and separate thumb are as perfect and pure white as is the porcelain of the head. Body shows considerable age, but "belongs"; it is the nice old home-made kind with shaped feet, small waist and broad hips that sit well. Head is 5½ inches high, 4½ across shoulders; height of doll, 22 inches. Undressed, No. A786, \$50.00.

An "assortment" must be assorted, so let's take a small marked Greiner, 16½ inches tall. Her contours, shoulders and label (an 1858, without extension) are perfect. Somebody did re-paint the face to the hair line, and we wish they had left it in original condition even though marred. Interesting and perhaps original body with old brown leather arms and red flannel covering on the legs. Splendid undergarments and lined, gored dress, too, although perhaps the somebody who re-touched little Greiner's features did sew some new narrow velvet ribbon on the drab old dress, to match red legs, no doubt. No. A750, \$50.00.

"From the book" is a precious little wooden who came to Kimport from her owner, Eleanor St. George. Pictured in her "Dolls of Yesterday," in a group after Page 12, little wooden lady is marked, from the Bernice Wake-

man group. The dress is a sort of moss-green calico, very old, with a bit of yellow and black print softened into it. Those stiff little curls are cute as can be and the dumpy wooden feet painted red. She is scant 9 inches tall; in wonderful condition; peg jointed at knees and elbows as well as hips and shoulders. This little old-timer is No. A792, priced at \$50.00. It would be fun to have one whose portrait singles in such an important book.

Next is a papier-mache from Mrs. St. George's collection of rather small, very early ones, also pictured in the same book. This is the exotic lady in a group picture after Page 60, the fancy one in striped taffeta with great puffs of curls at the sides, these sweeping clear up from the neckline. Then there is a most elaborate crown hair-do also of puffs and she has a little braided section around the back. Original, wooden arms and legs and leather body all in good condition. Fascinating old underwear which is probably original, although definitely, the dress is re-done. If you look closely at the picture, one cheek looks a little queer. I don't know whether it was cracked and touched up or not. Anyway, if perfect, such a rare possession would be close to \$100.00. Ten inches tall, No. A798. \$65.00.

Blonde, high browed "Hyacinth" came to us as a parian, but we say, early white bisque—looks like salt glaze. Head with beautifully modeled curls, bright rose cheeks and deep sloping shoulders is 3 inches high and perfect. Reproduction limbs, with especially pretty boots

that match the lilac shade of her two-piece silk gown. Lace, dainty braid, tiny hand-made flowers and bows make it a costume of distinction. No. A838, 11 inches tall, \$30.00.

Quaint as a Currier print, is a parian headed little miss with wooden body. Yes, her swivel neck head is built onto a wooden torso with limbs jointed at hips and shoulders. Spoon type hands; flat, solid feet, legs well turned and high boots painted bright blue with scarlet tops. Her old frock is ivoryed, fine cambric, with very full, narrow blue ruffling. Face is really pretty; hair is that old-fashioned kind like coils of flax that wind back and forth. Dates in the late seventies, according to her record; No. A852, 5½ inches tall, \$17.50.

Exactly the same height, but chubbier, is the smoothest French bisque dolly with some extra fine features. Large, dark blue eyes look like blown glass; hands, cupped with separated thumbs; boots are buff with black gaiter inset toes, high heels and lacing lines. Blonde wig is new—doll perfect—costume lovely with golden antique ribbon and brown velvet. No. A855, \$12.50.

It is always difficult to cease chatter in this department—there are so many things to talk about! There's an adorable little ball head china, and a rare glass eyed parian, a Lori baby, a collection of fantastic, very old puppets, and ever-s' many that are not being laid away like the priced ones. But here are a few more in the Doll Talk Hold:

Six inch tot of heavy celluloid



with spread eagle trademark that used to go traveling with its little lady owner back about 1912. The sturdy 4 inch high trunk (full of carefully made clothes) is an even earlier keepsake. Baby Claire and her belongings is No. AB610. \$13.95.

A pair of McGuffey twin toddlers are far from antique but they came in only one edition by Mme. Alexander. Butch and Baby McG. sleep, cuddle; have auburn wigs and cunning outfits. Eleven and a half inches, No. A857, \$8.00 the pair.

### PREPARED TO SHARE

Mrs. W. Barent Wemple has had about two hundred Kimport Dolls in our more than ten years of mutual admiration. She can assemble such groups as Patriots, Odd Materials, United Nations, State representatives, Orientals, Neighbors South of the Border, etc.. etc. Along with her Christmas order came the following word to tell again of the pleasure she has had in sharing her large and fascinating collection:

"Recently, I exhibited dolls on television WKTV-Utica and currently have loaned about two hundred to the Canajoharie Library to illustrate a children's book exhibit. The dolls always seem to give people a great deal of pleasure."

### WITH UNDERSTANDING

Of course Kimport cannot boast of a supply from all of the clever folk who make dolls. Helen Bul-lard, for instance, of Tennessee Holly Dolls, has not yet found time to fit in our order for a wooden exclusive for us, but in the mean-

time she expands her personal collection from sister craftworkers. To show how one doll artist appreciates the work of another, Helen writes:

"Your nice note reminds me I must not merely pay for something as exquisite as that tiny 'Lucy Limpet.' Here is a special thanks to you and to Mrs. Layton for making her available. The minute detail is so perfect that one wonders what kind of fingers and eyes Mrs. Layton has!"

That was the miniature, definitely limited in quantity because—Answer. Mrs. Layton has eyes past 60, but oh, such talented fingers.

Lucy Limpet Miniature. No. 190LM, \$2.95.

Regular Lucy Limpet, No. 190L, \$2.95.

### AND KIMPORT'S A "DREAM VENDOR"

Evelyn Gehman must have been in a dreamy mood when she wrote: "I look at my cabinet of dolls and imagine that each doll was someone's dream before it existed. Now it has become a dream again for another."

You might like these lines from an old book on Antiques

"Me in her fresh young arms she bore.

See, I am small— Only a doll,  
But I keep her kiss forevermore."

The book, "Two Hundred Years of Pennsylvania Dolls," is most interesting. An old doll that "lives" on from generation to generation seems to acquire a magical personality and one cannot help but wonder about the child who was her first love."

(This book may be ordered from Kimport post paid, \$1.10.)

## EXOTIC FOREIGNS

This is the field in which nobody can challenge Kimport—we always offer authentic imports from a multitude of foreign sources, from all over the world.



Egypt, how's that for a strange land of origin? Yet nobody could look at the doll priests without recognizing in their carved wooden heads, the helmets and hair styles as depicted in ancient friezes. Cloth bodies are rather crude, but right for the formally painted heads. About 9½" tall, No. 288, \$6.50. If you cannot buy everything you want right now, this is a rare selection to have reserved.

Paraguay, Dutch and British Guiana, Uruguay—believe it or not, these are excellent finds from these

far south countries for a collector who has almost all lands represented.

Shapely of form but still no beauty is the tall hand-made woman, 304AX, from Dutch Guiana; 9", \$4.50.

And homlier still are the tea raisers from British Guiana. These balata sap doll colonists of Mohammedan faith wear Hindoo costumes. They are fascinating collector items, about 6½" tall. No. 279 and 279A, man and woman, \$3.95 each.



From Uruguay, it's a gaucho of the pampas, whose cowboy costume is certainly different than that worn by our U. S. version. Cloth, hand-made man with big eyes and mustache, 9" tall, on a base, No. 367, \$7.50.



### DOLL TALK

A magazine in miniature, published for doll enthusiasts. Issued about every eight weeks.

Subscription is \$1.00 for two years.

Address:

**KIMPORT DOLLS**  
Independence, Mo.

### LET'S BE THRIFTY

In A. to our Q. (What does your collection lack?) on the Doll Talk subscription blank, Ellanor Thomas posed another Q.—“Mostly money—who doesn’t?” Then, in enthusing over a new small bisque we had just sent, she wrote: “Any old dress won’t do—our attic has a bit of this and that saved up, too nice to throw away—too many memories and now I know why they were saved! These pieces now will be made into doll costumes and also data written down—‘mamma’s brocaded vest—velvet and plums from her wedding outfit’ and such.”

### JIMMY SIGNED HERE

A recent United Press release tells the story of a doll being signed—personally—to the movies. We quote: “Not a ‘doll’ meaning a shapely starlet, either . . . Jimmy is an animated clown that does stunts on a trapeze . . . He was signed as one of the stars of ‘Top Man’ along with thespian upstages Joanne Dru, Richard Widmark and other human actors. Jimmy the toy gets close-ups, the opening scene and even feature billing, ‘Introducing Jimmy the Clown’ . . .

“Fox Studio gave Jimmy the same glamour treatment it presents to new blondes. He was feted at the usual cocktail party, another milestone in this land of toothpicks and olives.

“He was given a salary of \$200 a week, a special box in the prop department as a dressing room and even a press agent.

Harold Gelber, who costumed Jimmy, “is so pleased with his toy’s movie debut that he’s invented two more -- a little man who gets on a toy motorcycle and starts it himself, and a dog that walks and turns by himself.”

### NEXT — COSTUME JEWELRY

Many times we have suggested “Dolls for Decoration,” always meaning as accents of decor about the house. Such possibilities are endless—can be fitted into any period and to any pocket book. It remained for one of our young matron doll friends, stunning Milbria Laucis, to tell us about how she wears her dolls!

“Wish you could see my cashmere sweater with its necklace effect made of tiny Guatemalan doll pairs (6 dolls in a bandbox, No. 399M, 95c). I spaced them out with fancy wool stitches, and you should see how it really catches folks’ eyes!

“The needle dolls I stick into a suit lapel and then you sold me one in red wool that often gets worn at the waist, or on a pocket.”

### DO YOU KNOW . . . . .

Any doll is returnable to Kimport if not acceptable, for any reason?

## CORRESPONDENCE CLIPPINGS

"Please send 'Dolls—A Guide for Collectors' by Clara H. Fawcett. I have just about worn out the one in the Public Library here."

—Mrs. Loraine Eveland, Illinois.

"I fixed a cute lace parasol and a large picture hat for our lovely bisque lady; sure looks cute."

—Charlotte Ruddick, New York.

"Your 'Dolls and Mine' is such an informative and interesting book. I now want to order it for my niece who played with and formerly owned, with her sisters and brothers, most of the Callan-Barbour collection referred to on Pages 371-2."

—Mabel E. Barbour, Texas

"We are expecting our first grandbaby around the first of the year, so guess we won't be thinking of dolls for a while. You may remember our Marilyn Jeanne as a collector since she was about three—now she is concentrating on the 'custom made' variety."

—Mrs. L. G. Stott, Illinois.

"It is my custom to add something to my nativity sets every Christmas season, so this year I'll welcome the little lady angels and the Mexican Madonna shrine."

—Carolina Atherton, Calif.

"This year's doll money and then some went into re-creating a doll room by lining three sides of a bedroom with shelves with glass doors—made to order and plenty expensive"

—Mrs. George Sawyer, N. Y.

"You bet I want to belong to the Doll of the Month Club for another year! Have greatly enjoyed this new service and am sure if some of us could really afford it, it would be 'Two Dolls a Month Club.' The only question is how long can I continue the Doll Club and live in my three room apartment?"—Mrs. M. T. Ensign, Ohio.

"This makes six little foreign couples I have bought from your firm to assist in my lecture in behalf of the United Nations, named 'Wee, the People.'"

—Theo Marie Sponsler, Colorado.

"I will take the small Matreshka since the others are all gone, and just send any other kind of foreign doll for the balance. I love surprises."

—Mrs. H. W. Matthews, Tenn.

"I'm about due for a doll as a gift from me to me. They can be such a comfort when things go all wrong. Some women buy a new hat—I buy a doll"

—Marjorie Kissinger, Penn.

"Am so pleased with the two little old china heads, arms and legs that I would like three more of the same as they will be my 'quintuplets!'"

—Mrs. Louise Conant, Calif.

"I've read my first copy of Doll Talk and was delighted. Later, I hope to get the beautiful Empress Carlotta. I've always liked her story and thought Bette Davis did a beautiful job of acting the part in 'Juarez.'"

—Joan Kaltschmidt, New York.



"I have Ginger and Alice and have them dressed—Alice from an old illustration of 'Alice in Wonderland' and Ginger like 'Orphan Annie.' I adore them both."

—Mrs. J. B. Knight, Georgia.

"I am very pleased with the Dutch dolls sent for my August Doll of the Month, and especially liked the one you picked for my bonus doll. I have been very happy with all of the dolls I have received through this service, and here is my order for the next group of twelve."

—Mrs. Loretta Marshall, Conn.

"I have Janet Johl's new book, and like it fine. In fact, I believe it is going to rank with her first book. It is like renewing acquaintances with many doll pals and meeting new ones."

—Edna Tiffany, Kansas.

"When you first offered Helen Young's 'Gent,' I dressed him in white trousers, white shirt and a black and white striped coat with black tie. He looks very dashing!"—Mrs. George Falk, Arkansas.

"That Barbary Coast Gent came today and I can't wait to costume him as 'Diamond Jim.' I'll use a diamond stickpin in his cravat!"

Evelyn Ballard, Virginia.

"My daughter always loves the dolls you send, and all the other children here do also!"

—Mr. Leo Seren, D. C.

"I enjoy 'Doll Talk' because you offer so many interesting and inexpensive dolls. I cannot afford the expensive types."

—Mrs. Phyllis McMennamy, Ariz.

"It was in 1938 when I met you and saw your dolls at Kansas City, and that was what made me a doll collector. I did have just a few dolls before that which was enough to make me predisposed, so I fell hard when I turned the corner and saw that Kimport display."

—May E. Day, Mass.

"The Calvin Coolidge doll arrived during Republican convention—quite the proper time. And may I now add to the list of folk who have enjoyed my collection—door-to-door salesmen. Why certainly dolls are proudly visible from the front entrance."

—Mrs. C. R. Yount, Calif.

"In showing my Ichabod Crane doll recently, I borrowed a horse for him, and he surely made a hit!"

—Mrs. S. O. Nelson, Illinois.

"The two Coronation dolls arrived at the climactic point of the Philadelphia Doll Club's outing at my home. This was fun, for they all clamored about to see what I had gotten from Kimport! It was thoughtful of you to send them on approval. Their arrival was one more delight on my 1952 birthday!"

—Mrs. E. Price Cheyney, Penn.

"As you can imagine, I would not think of sending the carved Swiss doll back to Kimport. She is really lovelier than I had expected."

—Dorothea Williams, N. J.

"I'm just taking a chance, hoping that you still are in business, able to survive all this war business."

—Mrs. Robert Breitenbach, Ohio.



## Classic as a Cameo

Milk white for flesh tone, jet black for hair, rosy cheeks, and a smooth, high glaze of china—these add up to the simple, old-fashioned charm of the classic china-headed doll.

Kimport has the makin's, old stock from a German warehouse—heads and limbs that were made as the popularity of these dollies waned, in favor of their pink and prettier disposers. Their factory owner must have had faith that little girls would return to so staple an item, but black cotton stockings, willow plumes, and china-headed dolls linger only as fading memories, back in a gas-lit era.

Fifty years later, hundreds of these little china heads, arms and legs, still wrapped in crumbling tissue, are being sent to us. They are minus their standard type bodies of pink cambric or white muslin, but a pattern and easy instructions come with each order.

You who know dolls realize what quaint, yes "classic," little dolls these make to dress in old-fashioned costumes. They definitely are old, not reproductions; are imported from Germany, hence as authentic as the very ones your mother or grandmother had. Sorry, no blondes, and no range of sizes. The legs above glazed brown shoes and all of the arms are unglazed white, like stone bisque; that's the way they always were.

No. 613X completes into a 7½-inch doll; head, arms, legs and pattern, price \$1.25.

In dozen lots, No. 613-12, price \$13.50.

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SEND ALL ORDERS TO:  
**KIMPORT DOLLS,** Independence, Mo.